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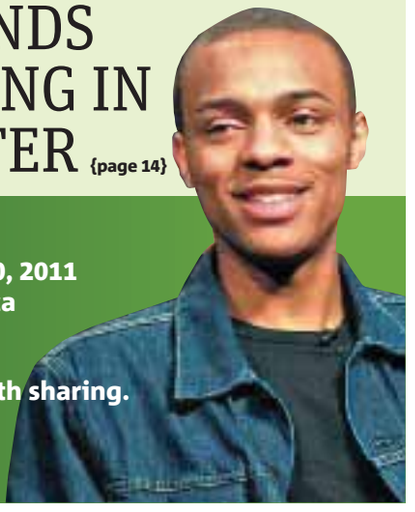
COMEDY BOSS
LIVE-ACTION THRILLS WITH SICK SENSE OF HUMOUR {page 9}

PUPPY LOVE

BOW WOW FINDS LIFE'S BLESSING IN NEW DAUGHTER {page 14}



LONDON metro®
Weekend, July 8-10, 2011
www.metronews.ca
News worth sharing.

Trouble over eHealth rebuild

'Confidence is reduced when we see the same players that were at the heart of the scandal a couple of years ago': NDP leader Telus says two former Courtyard Group execs will no longer be part new eHealth contract bid

The Ontario Liberals are again on the defensive over eHealth after it was revealed two executives once linked to the scandal-plagued agency were in the running for a lucrative new contract.

"It's as if Dalton McGuinty has found numerous ways to pay back his friends," said Progressive Conservative critic Lisa MacLeod.

"It doesn't appear at all that the Liberal government cares about the appearance of a group that was handsomely paid to do work in a massive scandal may be paid again — this doesn't pass the sniff test."

EHealth and Infrastructure Ontario said earlier this week that Telus Health Solutions GP and Maximus Canada had pre-qualified to bid for an upcoming contract to create a system that provides a secure record of patient medications. They were chosen, the agency said, because they had the experience, resources and financial strength to deliver the project.

"What I find troubling is that people are trying to politicize moving forward with a very important component of eHealth; to get our drug-management system up and running is vitally important," said Liberal Health Minister Deb Matthews. THE CANADIAN PRESS

▶ Swiss-born vocalist Sarah Buechi practises with members of world-music band Lehera, from left, Karthik Mani, Prakash Sontakke and Prashant John at Sunfest on Thursday. The band, which mixes classical Indian and Western music, performs with Buechi on Friday at 3:45 p.m. on the WestJet stage.

MIKE ARSENAULT/FOR METRO

Cultures cross melodic paths at Victoria Park for Sunfest

Local

Digging Veggie City

Youth-led community garden sprouts healthy change {page 2}

Phillies face Braves

Three all-star starters lined up {page 16}

1 news

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Amazing images from the history of NASA's space shuttle program, scheduled to begin its final mission Friday. Photo gallery at metronews.ca

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Brain study no laughing matter

Cringingly bad joke tellers across the world might be looking at the University of Western Ontario's newest study with bated breath.

University researchers have been able to pinpoint the area of the brain that ignites the most neural activity when a joke is told.

"We uncovered some interesting evidence that some vegetative patients may have residual cognitive function beyond what is evident from the bedside."

ADRIAN OWEN, CANADA EXCELLENCE RESEARCH CHAIR IN COGNITIVE NEUROSCIENCE AND IMAGING

The study, published in the Journal of Neuroscience, used a functional magnetic resonance image (fMRI) machine to scan the brains of 12 subjects and compared their reactions to jokes with reactions to non-joking dialogue.

The research is the first step in deciphering the complexities of neural activity in severely brain-damaged patients.

"The question that families and relatives most frequently ask us is can their loved one experience any emotion," said Adrian Owen, the study's lead researcher. "We came up with this idea that asking people to listen to jokes in the scanner would be a good way of doing that.

"I think it will be enormously important to know that a person can still experience emotions."

MIKE ARSENAULT

Homegrown initiative nourishes neighbourhood

Youth-mentorship program promotes nutrition, sustainability and employment by cultivating vegetable gardens in the Kipps Lane area

DAWN LYONS
LONDON@METRONEWS.CA

TOSHA DENSKY/FOR METRO

▶ Sosina Talihun loads up some sod as part of the Veggie City initiative around Kipps Lane and Ed Blake Park.

Violence, drugs, gangs and vandalism: These words are often associated with the Kipps Lane area.

But if Trevor Johnson has his way, that is about to change — thanks in part to Veggie City, part of a youth-mentorship initiative that helps provide food for people in the area.

"This will enhance the social capital of the neighbourhood to make it stronger, safer and more resilient," said Johnson, the city's supervisor of community partnerships, who is co-ordinating the program with Tosha Densky.

Veggie City is the force behind the creation of vegetable gardens in the backyards of homes around Kipps Lane and Ed Blake Park.

Nine young people start the gardens in the spring, then they maintain them over the summer. They visit the gardens two or three times a week to water and weed and pick the crops.

The vegetables are taken to a distribution area at the Kipps Lane plaza each Wednesday, where shareholders in the program fill their needs for the week.

Representatives from the health unit are usually there to hand out recipe cards and talk about proper nutrition. Extra items are donated to the Life Resource Centre, which provides bags of vegetables to families in need.

Johnson said Veggie City has been "a real collaborative" and cites donations from Try Recycling and Forest City Image Centre.

In addition, TLC Landscaping donated staff to remove sod and till the garden areas prior to planting.

The benefits, Johnson said, are as plentiful as the vegetables the plants produce.

"It helps the neighbours meet one another, the diversity of the neighbourhood is represented and it keeps the youth in the area busy and making money in the summer," he said.

Free BBQ Saturday

A free celebration barbecue is being held at the Kipps Lane plaza Saturday for the residents who participate in the program.

Grits' TV ads highlight track record

The Ontario Liberals are launching their summer ad campaign with a series of commercials aimed at showcasing their record on health and education.

The party is launching four TV ads featuring babies, children and a wedding to illustrate the government's work in reducing surgery wait times and class sizes.

They also deal with full-day kindergarten — a program both the Tories and NDP have promised to implement if elected on Oct. 6 — but something the Liberals insist the other parties can't be trusted to do.

Much like a previous ad in which Premier Dalton McGuinty is heard but not seen, this one makes no mention of the party's leader.

The Liberal ad campaign hasn't yet turned nasty, unlike Progressive Conservative ads that call McGuinty "the taxman."

But the party says upcoming ads will focus on what it says are the "risks" of voting for the Tories or the NDP.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE FILE

▶ Premier Dalton McGuinty

LHSC welcomes new members to its board

The London Health Sciences Centre welcomed three new members to its board of directors. Board chair Peter Johnson welcomed incoming members Dr. Colleen Hancyz, Tom Gergely and Dr. Scott McKay at the community meeting in June. **METRO**

Hollywood in St. Thomas

St. Thomas will be in the spotlight Friday as a scene from the Hollywood remake of Total Recall will be filmed at the Formet plant.

Colin Farrell will be on set for the shoot, which is scheduled to last the whole day. It will include about two dozen Formet staffers, who will be extras in the movie. Two hundred plant employees will be given the chance to meet Farrell.

"There's a lot of people in town that are talking about it," said Mayor Heather Jackson-Chapman.

Most of the filming for the movie is being done in Toronto. Jackson-Chapman hopes this isn't the last time she sees a Hollywood star in her city.

"We're open for business, and we certainly have locations like this and others available for people looking to shoot films," she said.

The original Total Recall came out in 1990 and starred Arnold Schwarzenegger.

The new movie also stars Ethan Hawke, Kate Beckinsale, Bryan Cranston and Jessica Biel. It's scheduled to be released in August 2012.

JAG GUNDU/GETTY IMAGES

▶ Colin Farrell

AM980/AM980.CA

Youth soccer camp not just for Kicks

Concludes Friday at City Wide Fields Coaches are from Finland, England, Belgium and Holland

MIKE ARSENAULT
LONDON@METRONEWS.CA

"My touch has improved and I've been more confident on the ball because (the coaches) teach you to do that."
TYLER ELLIS, CAMP ATTENDEE

An influx of world-class soccer talent has invaded the London area for one week only.

With its first international soccer camp, Academy Garrincha is hoping to expose Forest City youth to the finer, more cerebral parts of a game typically enjoyed recreationally by kids on a grassroots level.

The London-based soccer academy's mission is to bring a European-style club experience to the area.

"Canadian soccer is not as advanced as in Europe," said Jose (Garrincha) Figueiredo, technical director of Academy Garrincha. "I want to expose (Canadian kids) to the youth development structure and systems of European soccer academies."

Garrincha met the majority of the coaches brought over for the camp while he played and coached overseas before moving to Canada three years ago.

"This is high-level coaching," Garrincha said. "The highest level of coaching. A lot of people have no idea (how good these coaches are)."

While fun is an important aspect of the camp, only the most ambitious players looking to better their soccer skills are in attendance.

"(We have) elite-level players. Top players within the province, within the country," said Greg Clarke, head trainer of Academy Garrincha.

MIKE ARSENAULT/FOR METRO

▶ London's Tyler Ellis practises his juggling skills at Academy Garrincha's international soccer camp on Thursday morning. Ellis is a striker for Marconi Men's Division II and will be attending the University of Maine at Fort Kent on a soccer scholarship in the fall.

Police charge man in road-rage incident

Police have charged a 24-year-old London man after a violent case of road rage.

Around 7 p.m. Wednesday, a man and his wife were driving in the area of Pond Mills and Commissioners Road east, and the male driver behind them thought they were going too slow. He sped past them, yelling and making hand gestures. When both vehicles stopped at a red light, the man got out of his car, grabbed a baseball bat and swung it at the other driver' head.

The victim was able to block the bat with his arm, suffering minor injuries.

AM980/AM980.CA

News in brief

Largest dance tour ever

The largest dance-music tour ever to hit the North American college market is coming to London. Tiësto's Club Life College Invasion Tour hits the JLC on Sept. 17. Tickets go on sale Thursday at 10 a.m.

METRO

Traffic stop yields charges

Two London men face drug charges after police stopped a vehicle Tuesday. Troy Wolfe, 23, has been charged with driving while disqualified and possession of hash. Joshua Sturgeon, 20, has been charged with possession of marijuana, crystal meth and crack cocaine for trafficking.

METRO

Transit. Turn

▶ Ryan Ollson's winning entry for the 340W bus-stop-makeover design competition has been installed on Wellington Street at the corner of York. APK Live, LifePaths Global Alliance and the London Transit Commission organized the competition.

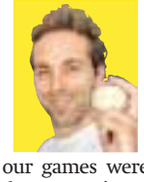
SCOTT WEBB/FLAT WHITE PHOTOGRAPHY

Bus-stop makeover

FACING SOME ADVERSITY

LIFE WITH THE MAJORS

MIKE ARSENAULT
MAJORS PITCHER AND IBL INSIDER



After a one-week hiatus due to Canada Day celebrations (Metro didn't publish last Friday; I don't mean I went on a patriotic bender of Labatt's Blue and maple syrup), I return just as the Majors are in the midst of our first stretch of lacklustre play of the 2011 season.

As I've recounted ad nauseum in this space, we began the summer with a liquid-hot-magma-esque winning streak. The Majors looked unstoppable on our way to a regular-season championship.

Like Mike Tyson in the late 1980s, we won without being challenged. We were blowing teams out of the water with unparalleled offensive production. Most of our games weren't even close. Each game was just a demonstration of our hitting prowess.

Unfortunately, great opposing pitching became our Buster Douglas. Our bats were flummoxed in a couple of games and we didn't know how to react. It was the first time all year that we've been punched in the mouth. We were dazed.

The brief struggles turned into a five-game losing streak, and we've come up on the short end of the stick in six of our last eight.

I think we've been felled by hubris. We assumed we would run roughshod over the league and all we had to do was show up at the park to win games. We beat up on teams below us in the standings, but are struggling against the cream of the IBL crop.

Luckily, the Majors still have a plethora of regular season games left to right the ship. In hindsight, this stretch might be good for us. We get losing out of our system now, hone our focus, and storm out of the gates guns blazing come playoff time.

Batter up

▶ The Majors are 15-8 on the season. We play Saturday night at home vs. Ottawa at 7:30 p.m. and Sunday afternoon at 2 p.m. in Hamilton.

Stadium roof collapse kills one

FC Twente scheduled to host club tournament this summer ◐ Friendly match vs. Zeeland team cancelled

The roof of a Dutch sports stadium partially collapsed during off-season construction work Thursday, killing one person and leaving 10 others hospitalized, a local mayor said.

In all, 16 people were injured when the roof at the southern end of the FC Twente stadium collapsed around midday, said Peter den Oudsten, mayor of the Dutch town of Enschede where the football stadium is located, about 160 kilometres east of Amsterdam.

Three people were treated at the scene, he said. Two injured workers went to hospital on their own for treatment before returning home. He added that one of the hospitalized victims remained in "a very critical condition."

FC Twente chairman Joop Munsterman said the entire club was in shock.

"You see this kind of thing in a disaster movie, but not in real life."

News video showed at least one construction worker, apparently bleeding from a head wound, escorted by paramedics.

Sniffer dogs and cameras were used to search for anyone trapped under the tangle of girders and roof panels behind the goal at the Grolsch Veste stadium. The search was eventually halted. Den Oudsten said emergency services were sure nobody was trapped.

The cause of the collapse was under investigation. The construction work aimed to increase the stadium's capacity to 30,000 from 24,000 by adding a new tier above existing seating.

FC Twente rector Jan van Halst said the club "is terribly upset. Our sympathy goes to the victims."

The FC Twente team, which was the Dutch national football champion in 2010 and runner-up last season, was training in the southern province of Zeeland at the time of the collapse.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

TUBANTIA/CARLO TER ELLEN/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

▶ Ambulance workers are seen inside the Grolsch Veste stadium in Enschede, Netherlands, on Thursday. A section of the Dutch football stadium collapsed during off-season construction work, trapping people underneath, police said.

Sudanese brace for independence reform

The people of South Sudan finally get their own country on Saturday, an emotional independence celebration few thought possible during a half century of civil wars and oppression that left more than two million dead.

Military parades and celebrations will burst forth Saturday in front of dozens of visiting world leaders.

But when that party ends, South Sudan must face grim realities: It will be one of the most underdeveloped countries on the planet, only 15 per cent of its citizens can read and fears of renewed conflict abound.

South Sudan's independence drive was made possible by a 2005 peace deal between Sudan's north and south. Last January, former guerrilla fighters shed tears as they cast votes to break away from the control of the Khartoum-based north

Among those who cast ballots at special U.S. polling stations were some of the 3,800 war orphans known as the Lost Boys of Sudan, who ran from war and were taken in by the United States.

The government faces the massive challenges of reforming its bloated and often predatory army, diversifying its solely oil-based economy, and deciding how political power will be distributed among the ethnic and military factions.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

PETE MULLER/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

▶ Members of the Sudan People's Liberation Army stand at attention during a rehearsal for independence.

Conflict zone

- The north-south civil war took place from 1983-2005
- The north is mostly Arab, while traditional African religions and Christianity are practiced in the south.
- Violence has killed nearly 2,400 this year alone.
- Seven different rebel militias operate in the south.

Wedding-goers killed in crash

A train hit a stopped bus at a railway crossing in northern India early Thursday, killing at least 35 people returning from a wedding party, an official said.

At least 39 others were injured when the train dragged the mangled bus more than 500 metres before stopping, local administrator Selva Kumar said.

The bride and the groom were travelling in a separate vehicle and were not among the victims, Kumar said. No passengers on the train were hurt.

The accident happened near Kanshiramnagar, a village 350 kilometres southwest of Lucknow, the capital of Uttar Pradesh state. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Grizzly saved for cub defence

Yellowstone National Park authorities will not try to capture a female grizzly that killed a back-country hiker because it was trying to defend its cubs when it was surprised by the man, a spokesman said Thursday. Park spokesman Al Nash said Wednesday's mauling of the 57-year-old man was a purely defensive act.

He said Yellowstone typically does not try to capture or remove a bear in what he called "a wildlife incident."

It was the first fatal grizzly attack at the park in 25 years — but the third in the Yellowstone region in just over a year.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Traveller's spirit and Scotiabank support help Shanghai native start Canadian journey

As the operator of a Shanghai travel agency, Yuxiang Zhang had a love of travel that he put to the test when he decided to move to Canada. But when he faced worries about this colossal trip, he discovered how Scotiabank's multinational team and services can provide a smooth landing.

Mr. Zhang's personal journey began after he visited Becky, his only daughter, who had migrated to Canada in 1999. Seeing how she was enjoying her life in a friendly, multicultural country, he decided to become a family class immigrant.

"I was excited to join my daughter, but I was also unsure about the details, such as how would I move forward without speaking English?" says Mr. Zhang, who also wondered about practical issues such as the process to transfer money to a Canadian bank.

Fortunately, Becky convinced him to attend an immigration seminar in Shanghai, hosted by Scotiabank and The Cross-Cultural Community Services Association, where Bank officials answered every question, ranging from the Canadian job market to government services. He also learned about the ***Scotiabank StartRight***® Program[1] for Newcomers, which includes a free day-to-day bank account for one year[2], a wide range of VISA* card options[3] and a number of other customized services and benefits.

"Before the seminar, I was very worried, but afterwards I felt relieved, and it gave me the courage to move forward," recounts Mr. Zhang, who arranged for his Canadian and U.S. dollar bank accounts with Scotiabank, and applied for a credit card, while still in Shanghai, through the Bank's partnership with China Everbright Bank.

After landing in Toronto in late 2009, Mr. Zhang went alone to the Scotiabank branch at the Steeles & Silverstar location to activate his accounts. Speaking only Mandarin and Russian, he wasn't sure how things would go. Luckily, he was greeted by Isa Ho, Branch Manager, and her multilingual staff. "Surprisingly, it went well, and my accounts and debit card were ready, and my VISA* card came within a week," marvels Mr. Zhang.

Isa, a Canadian immigrant who speaks both Cantonese and Mandarin, is well prepared to serve newcomers. She often calls them long distance before they move, to help them prepare. "I tell them about banking options and what are the best schools for their kids," says Isa, a 31-year veteran of Scotiabank, who still remembers seeing donuts for the first time when she arrived. "When they get here, we answer their questions about Canadian customs, and explain about banking in Canada. Also, since many newcomers want to buy a home, we educate them on Canadian mortgages and how to avoid credit mistakes."

Today, Mr. Zhang is enjoying life in Canada, studying English and preparing to start a tour business for both Chinese and Canadian travellers. During an upcoming visit to China, he will tell others about the opportunities in Canada and "the friendly, open and trustworthy service I experience at Scotiabank."

That's good news for Isa Ho who teaches her Scotiabank team to "Welcome every newcomer with a smile, speak their language, and serve them with our hearts."

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With the support of Scotiabank's Isa Ho, Mr. Yuxiang Zhang is discovering a world of opportunities in Canada.

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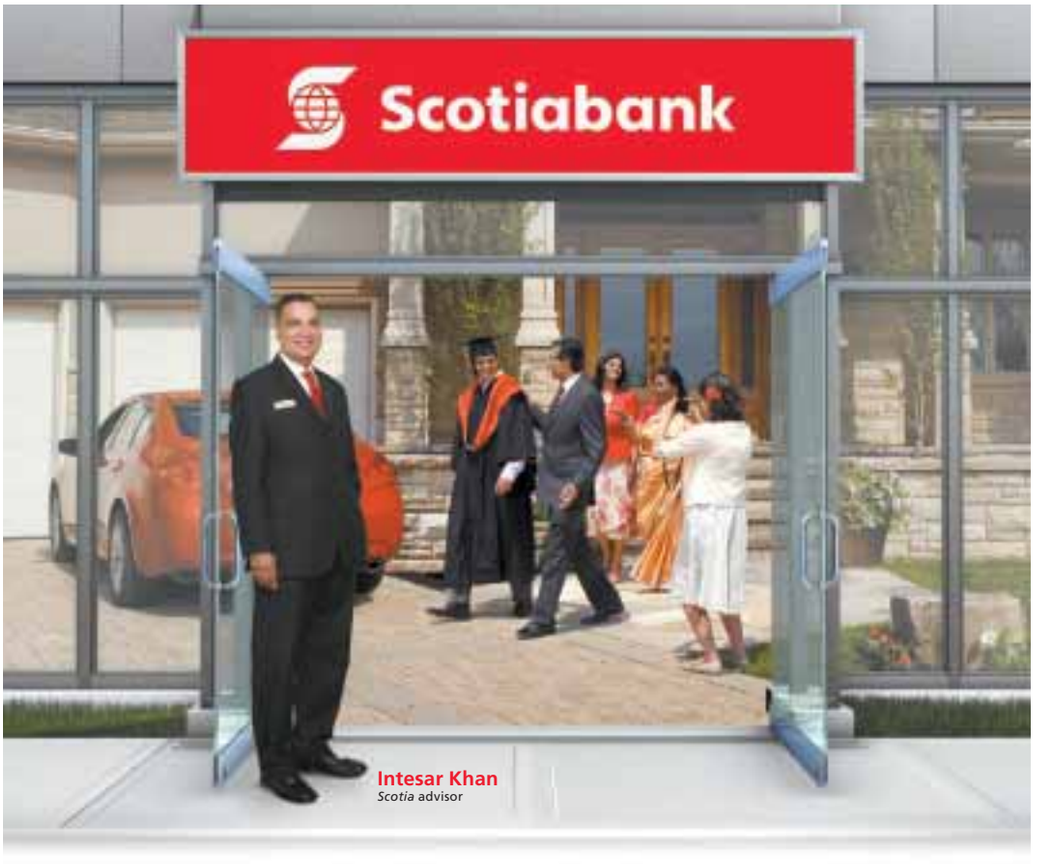

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Meeting Kate a dream come true for a six-year-old

Couple spent some down time near Lake Louise before wrapping up nine-day tour in Calgary Meeting with PM, bull-riding also on agenda

NATHAN DENETTE/THE CANADIAN PRESS

▶ The Duke and Duchess of Cambridge are presented with white cowboy hats by Calgary Mayor Naheed Nenshi, right, and Alberta Lieutenant Governor Donald S. Ethell on their arrival to Calgary Thursday.

There were a few grumbles among Calgarians on Thursday when Prince William and Kate appeared to pass on a decades-old tradition, but for others it was hats off to the royals for fulfilling the wish of a sick little girl.

In the midst of strong winds, the couple did not don the cowboy hats presented to them by Calgary Mayor Naheed Nenshi upon their arrival in the city — a 60-year-old ceremony called "white hatting."

Instead, the Duchess of Cambridge quickly turned her attention to Diamond Marshall, a six-year-old girl decked out in a pretty pink dress with a matching band encircling her bald head.

Diagnosed with Stage 4 undifferentiated sarcoma last December, Diamond had two life-saving surgeries in recent months and had spent nearly a month in intensive care.

The youngster's biggest wish was to one day meet a real princess. She had written Kate a note from the hospital bed where she watched the royal wedding earlier this year, and the Children's Wish Foundation went to work.

On Friday, they are to open the Stampede parade, visit the zoo and meet homeless youth, attend an Alberta government reception and lay a wreath before leaving Canada and heading to Los Angeles.

The custom-made, white Smithbilt cowboy hats are Calgary's version of the key to the city. The white-hatting ceremony has been celebrated by dignitaries visiting Calgary for more than 60 years and is a symbol of the city's cowboy culture. Its honourees range from the Dalai Lama to Dr. Phil.

Previous members of the Royal Family to be white-hatted include Prince Philip, Prince Andrew and Prince Edward. Philip, who received his third cowboy cover in 1969, ruffled some feathers when he quipped about not knowing what to do with another hat other than to carry water or plant flowers in it.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Florida mom cleared in daughter's death

Casey Anthony will be freed next week after spending nearly three years in jail on accusations she killed her two-year-old daughter.

While cleared of charges of killing and abusing her daughter Caylee, Anthony was convicted of lying to investigators and sentenced Thursday to four years, the maximum punishment. But she was given credit for the time she has already served and her good behaviour, and she was set to be released Wednesday.

Prosecutors contended Anthony suffocated Caylee with duct tape because she was interfering with her desire to be with her boyfriend and party with her friends. When Anthony's parents confronted their daughter about Caylee's whereabouts, she told them the girl had been missing for a month.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

JOE BURBANK/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

▶ Casey Anthony at her sentencing hearing in Orlando, Fla., on Thursday.

Teen who believed he saw zombie cleared in stabbing death

A teenager from Canada who allegedly stabbed to death a 21-year-old man in Glasgow after hearing voices saying the man was a zombie, has been found not guilty of murder by reason of insanity.

Scottish media reports say a jury at the High Court in Glasgow cleared 19-year-old Tianhui Zhan of murdering 21-year-old Michael Davis on Oct. 13, 2010.

Davis had just finished work as a cleaner and was on his way to a second cleaning job when Zhan allegedly stabbed him three times. He underwent surgery but died from his injuries the following day.

According to the reports, the court heard Zhan picked his victim at random in an unprovoked attack because he believed Davis was a zombie who was going to attack him.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Voices told him

The court heard that Zhan, who is of Chinese origin but lives with his parents in Canada, travelled to Glasgow after hearing voices saying he should go there.

MALAYSIA

Kindergarten class held hostage

A man carrying a machete barged into a Malaysian kindergarten class and held children and teachers hostage for six tense hours Thursday before police shot him in the head. Police said the 30 children and four teachers were not harmed.

During negotiations with the man, he threatened to kill the children unless he was given a gun, a police officer said.

The unidentified man was in hospital in critical condition after sustaining a single bullet wound to the head, said police. A police officer confirmed that the 30 children, aged between three and five years, and four teachers are safe.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Soothing songs

▶ The children had been heard singing in what was believed to be an attempt to calm the man, the Bernama news agency reported.

Germany OKs embryo testing for defects

After an emotional debate, German lawmakers voted Thursday to allow a procedure that looks for genetic disorders in embryos before they are implanted in the womb.

The procedure, known as preimplantation genetic diagnosis, is sometimes used after in-vitro fertilization, when parents whose families have a history of genetic disorders want to avoid having a child with a lethal or severely debilitating birth defect.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Accused cop killer in no shape for hearing

A seriously injured teen charged with killing a York region police officer was slated for his first court hearing in Newmarket, Ont., Thursday but police say he won't be attending.

In a brief telephone call to the boy's hospital bed, court heard the accused was in no condition to speak to the charge.

The Crown says it will be seeking an adult sentence in the case of a teen accused in the death of a police officer crushed by a minivan. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Paper shuttered in tabloid shocker

News of the World reels from backlash over phone hacking Former editor Andrew Coulson faces arrest

The Murdoch media empire killed off the muckraking News of the World tabloid Thursday after a public backlash over the illegal tactics it used to expose the rich, the famous and the royal and remain Britain's bestselling weekly newspaper.

The abrupt decision stunned the paper's staff of 200 and ignited speculation that Rupert Murdoch's News Corp. plans to rebrand the tabloid under a new name in a bid to prevent a phone-hacking scandal from wrecking its bid for a far more lucrative television deal.

Mushrooming allegations of criminal behaviour at the paper — including bribing police for information and hacking into the voice-mail messages of celebrities, politicians and the families of murder victims — cast a dark cloud over News Corp.'s multibillion-pound plan to take full ownership of British Sky Broadcasting Group PLC, an operation far more valuable than all of Murdoch's British newspapers.

Faced with growing public disgust, political condemnation and bolting advertisers — including automakers Ford and Vauxhall, grocery chain J. Sainsbury and pharmacy chain Boots — Murdoch stopped the presses on the 168-year-old newspaper.

James Murdoch said all revenue from Sunday's final issue, which will carry no ads, would go to "good causes." THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Fleet Street fury

- The News of the World sold about 2.7-million copies a week.
- The long-running phone-hacking saga exploded Monday with the revelation that the paper had hacked into the phone of Milly Dowler, a 13-year-old girl who was abducted and murdered in 2002.
- Police say they are examining 4,000 names of people who may have been targeted.
- Shares in News Corp. were up 1.6 per cent Thursday at $18.22 US on the Nasdaq index in New York, although they have fallen from above $18.50 since Tuesday.

JULIE JACOBSON/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

▶ Rupert Murdoch and his wife Wendi arrive for a conference Thursday at the Sun Valley Inn in Sun Valley, Idaho. The Murdoch-owned News Corp. has jettisoned Britain's weekly News of the World, but many analysts believe Murdoch is merely trying to contain the damage from a phone-hacking scandal so as not to jeopardize his bid for broadcaster BSkyB.

Obama hints at cuts to social programs

A debt-crisis session among U.S. congressional leaders was "very constructive," President Barack Obama said on Thursday, but the parties were still far apart in their attempts to avert a default of U.S. financial obligations. He said he would reconvene the negotiators on Sunday.

Thursday's meeting came amid signs the White House was willing to cut spending on major benefit programs for the elderly, while Republicans hinted they might consider new steps to raise revenue.

Such a compromise could see both parties upsetting their political bases before next year's congressional and presidential elections. Democrats are already campaigning as defenders of social programs while Republicans oppose any tax increases.

The White House has also said the president is aiming for deficit reduction closer to $4 trillion over 10 years, nearly double the roughly $2 trillion that had been at the centre of negotiations.

Raising the U.S. debt ceiling is usually little more than a formality, but Republicans who control the House of Representatives say they won't go along without major spending cuts.

Obama says the government needs to raise the $14.3-trillion debt limit by Aug. 2. If a deal is not reached by that date, the U.S. could default on its debt, something that would likely touch off a global financial crisis and plunge the country into another recession, analysts say. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

PABLO MARTINEZ MONSIVAIS/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

▶ U.S. President Barack Obama meets with congressional leaders on Thursday to discuss the debt. Among them were House Minority Leader Nancy Pelosi and House Speaker John Boehner.

Market moment

PRICES AS OF 5 P.M. THURSDAY

TSX	Dollar
+ 2.9 (13,406)	+ 0.75¢ (104.31¢ US)
Oil	**Natural gas**
+ $2.02 ($98.67 US)	1,000 cu ft $4.138 US (- 8.4¢)
	Gold contract $1,530.60 US (+ 1.40)

Bankers confer on Greek debt

Banks, insurance companies and other financial institutions have held talks in Rome in their latest effort to get the private sector involved in saving Greece from default.

Though Greece has approved severe spending cuts and is receiving a 100-billion-euro bailout, many expect it will need another lifeline to avoid default.

Banks that hold Greek bonds are expected to participate in that second bailout, but ratings agencies have threatened that such involvement could force them to consider Greece in default.

An official with the Italian Treasury Ministry said the meeting Thursday was organized in part by the International Institute of Finance. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

TAKING THE RELATIVE HIGH ROAD

THE METRO LIST

NEIL MORTON
METRO

1 Mother-in-law from hell. No, not my mother-in-law. She's great. I'm referring to the MIL who sent a scathing email gone viral to her future daughter-in-law insulting her for a lack of ladylike behaviour. Lesson learned: If your MIL sends you a nasty email, take the high road. Don't reply. Simply forward her email to a few friends and watch it go viral.

2 Jose Bautista. In an era of flamboyant star athletes, how refreshing is it that down-to-earth Blue Jay slugger Jose Bautista will not only be starting next Tuesday's all-star game, but also set a record for the most votes ever cast for a single player in Major League Baseball history: 7,454,753 votes.

3 The Twitter friends. Only in the social media age! Two women who met on Twitter, Megan and Beth, become real-life friends and begin a video series The Twitter Friends (thetwitterfriends.com). In every episode, they sit and chat about the neatest things they have discovered from tweeps. Check it out, then tweet about it.

"I'm referring to the (mother-in-law) who sent a scathing email gone viral to her future daughter-in-law insulting her for a lack of ladylike behaviour."

4 Kevin Bacon. Kevin (Six Degrees of Separation) Bacon turns 53 today. He has been around so long that his 1984 iconic film Footloose has been remade for release later this year. Don't worry Kevin, this news makes a lot of us feel ancient.

5 Brady and Lang in the morning. On your groggy morning commute, if a Timmy's double-double alone won't pick you up, turn the dial to Fan 590 radio where its morning team, Greg Brady and Jim Lang, bring it. Whatever Kool-Aid these Energizer bunnies drink before they gab about all things jock, I want some.

6 Will & Kate tour ends. Their rock star-esque nine-day, seven-city tour of Canada finishes today in Calgary. Next stop: Los Angeles. Where they will fit right in. Yes, Will-Kat are the next Brangelina, with enormous power to effect positive change.

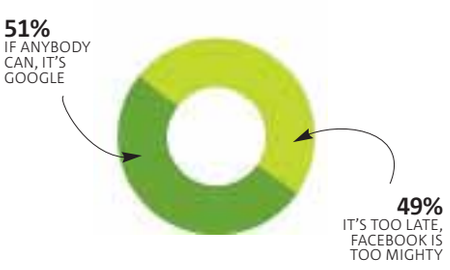
7 Casey Anthony. She was found not guilty. And no O.J. jokes because they have all been done already. But, yes, a rather astonishing verdict to many. At the very least, as @piersmorgan tweeted after the verdict, "Not guilty of murder ... but still guilty of being a shockingly bad mother. #CaseyAnthony"

8 Hot dogging it. Joey Chestnut won the Nathan's Famous Fourth of July International Hot Dog Eating Contest at Coney Island, Brooklyn, N.Y., by consuming 62 hotdogs in 10 minutes. Now I don't feel so bad about pigging out on Canada Day.

Follow Neil Morton on Twitter (@neilmorton).

Register at metrolifepanel.ca and take the quick poll

Do you think Google+ will take down Facebook?



Local tweets

- **@Shauna Rae67:** Still looking for a used or reasonably priced painting easel! Has to support big canvases! Please contact ASAP! #LdnOnt
- **@michaelmcalpine:** Thinking of going to Black Trumpet tonight for anniversary dinner. Thoughts? Good? Bad? restaurantica has mixed reviews. #ldnont
- **@reed_man:** Looking forward to lots of sun and great music @ #Sunfest #ldnont Drop by the jazz stage and say hi!
- **@patsearle:** Great to be back on campus! #uwo #westernu
- **@MadProgrammer:** Woo Woo Dingman Rd is open again #ldnont I can get to work 10 minutes faster again.
- **@JClarkey:** Dear @arcadefire, please come to #ldnont. #AFldnont cc/@JLC @coreydownie @thedodos @DerekHarmsworth
- **@nicholasmizera:** Where can I buy a straight razor in #ldnont? You know — for my face, not shanking someone.
- **@gordums:** I feel like Ke$ha ready to party now that I have my class schedule registered finally #uwo

Worth mentioning

BENGHAZI, Libya. Moammar Gadhafi is loved in Libya's rebel capital — as a subject for street artists to mock.

Caricatures of the Libyan leader dot walls and buildings across Benghazi in renderings that range from crude sketches to elaborate satire such as Gadhafi being knocked around by a rebel-flagged boot or depicted with a Nazi swastika.

Before Libya's uprising, even a hint of dissent risked a crushing response from Gadhafi's security forces. Now, it's open season on Gadhafi in rebel-held territory.

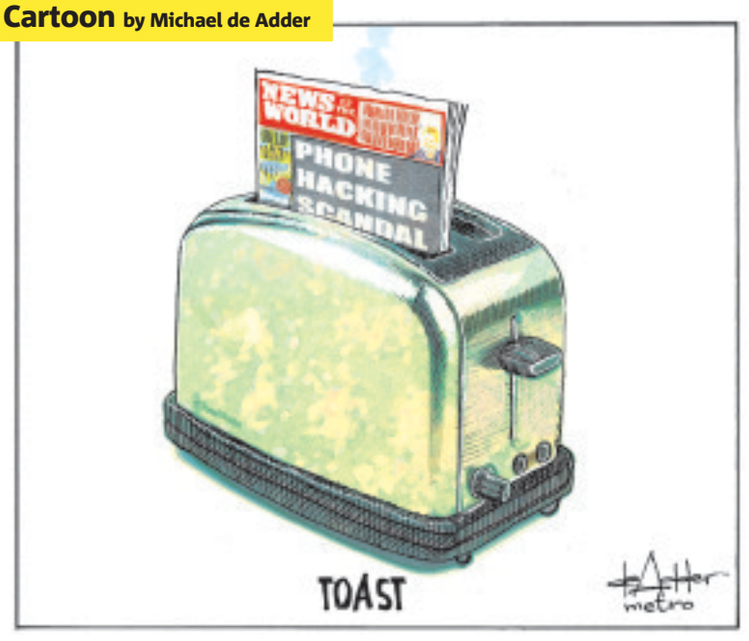
For some aspiring cartoonists — and others wanting to make their mark — this means getting out their spray paints and markers to display their opposition.

Rida, a 35-year-old barber and interior designer before the rebellion, makes dozens of Gadhafi sketches each day. Some have shown him in a trash can or with his clothes blown off by a U.S. jet fighter.

"I cannot fight with arms, but I can kill him with my pencil," said Rida.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Cartoon by Michael de Adder



WEIRD NEWS

Can you teach the same dog new tricks?

A dog that went missing seven years ago will be reunited with her original owner after living for all that time with another family in the same Arkansas town.

Andrew Navarette told animal control officers that he let his Shih Tzu, Mimi, out in the backyard of his Rogers, Ark., home seven years ago, but when he went to retrieve her she had disappeared, the Rogers Morning News reported Thursday. Navarette was unable to track Mimi down, even though she had a microchip containing his contact information.

Some time later, Kim Rafter of Rogers acquired the animal from someone in good faith, renamed her Gizmo, and has cared for her ever since. Meanwhile, Navarette relocated to Woodlake, Calif.

Last Saturday, Mimi showed up at an animal shelter in Rogers where officials found the chip and called Navarette, who had kept the same cellphone number. Assistant shelter manager Matt Colston said Navarette was excited Mimi had been found and said he would pay for the Shih Tzu to be shipped to his home in California. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Plot synopsis

- The bosses in this movie make Genghis Khan look like an equal opportunity employer. Jason Bateman works for corporate shark Kevin Spacey. Jason Sudeikis has coke-head Colin Farrell and his comb-over. Charlie Day works for Jennifer Aniston, a dentist who uses laughing gas as a sex toy. All are stuck in their jobs and fed up with the daily humiliation offered in their workplaces and decide to terminate their bosses — literally.
- **Ratings:**
  Richard: ⊕⊕⊕
  Phil: ⊕⊕⊕

▶ Charlie Day, Jason Sudeikis and Jason Bateman in Horrible Bosses.

Reel Guys

RICHARD CROUSE & MARK BRESLIN
SCENE@METRONEWS.CA

Bosses delivers the goods

Richard Crouse and Phil Brown agree the premise of Horrible Bosses is a bit tired ◐ Despite that, it's a funny movie that induces pants-wetting laughs

Movie writer Phil Brown is sitting in for Mark Breslin this week.

Richard Crouse: Phil, of course no reasonable person would break into their bosses homes looking for ways to kill them, but this is a comedy so we'll accept that. Or will we? I thought the movie started off strong, funny and well paced, but its central premise — let's kill our bosses! — seems forced and it sucks some of the funny from the middle part of the movie. What did you think?

Phil Brown: Richard, I've got to go the other way. The premise of having a terrible boss that makes your life hell is sadly all too relatable for many, but the opening bad boss gags felt tired even with the R-rated facelift. It didn't click for me until the murder element turned the movie into a live action cartoon with a sick sense of humour.

RC: Interesting, I felt as though I was watching a funny enough movie marred by a silly premise. It's one thing to have some drinks and joke about killing your boss, it's quite another to act on it. I don't want to beleaguer this point, but the crucial set-up scene to me felt forced, like a weak lead in to a funny punch line. Having said that, Charlie Day made me laugh. A lot.

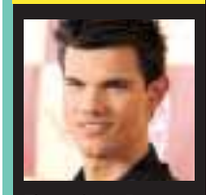
PB: The whole premise is old and they even name-dropped two movies that did it better (Strangers On A Train and Throw Mamma From The Train). I think we can both agree that things really got rolling in the second half when it deviated from that form. Charlie Day definitely induces pants-wetting laughter consistently and I think the cast made this movie work through an improvisation festival. The only problem is that comedy style kills narrative momentum and there was no real tension in the thriller aspect of the story. Though I suppose the laughs are more important.

RC: And there are plenty of laughs. I don't want to be Debbie Downer here. The movie is funny. It was cool to see Kevin Spacey revive his character Buddy from Swimming with Sharks, and if this doesn't wipe away any traces of Rachel left over from Jennifer Aniston's TV work I don't know what will. Now, I guess, she's America's Foul Mouthed Over Sexed Sweetheart.

PB: In my mind, she always will be. Despite the inconsistencies, Horrible Bosses delivers the goods and will always be the only movie featuring Colin Farrell doing a coked-up Michael Keaton impression with a comb-over.

2 scene

Scene in brief



The website Funny Or Die debuted a Field of Dreams sequel Wednesday. Twilight star Taylor Lautner plays the equivalent of Kevin Costner in a mock movie trailer that quickly drew more than 150,000 views. The video, Field of Dreams 2: Lockout, is a riff on the NFL labour negotiations.
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Singing in the blood: A musical parody of The Silence of the Lambs to debut off Broadway

A Pooh for a new century

Disney gives Winnie the Pooh a more contemporary feel, yet stays true to the classic charm of the original

RICHARD CROUSE
SCENE@METRONEWS.CA

Winnie the Pooh has Canadian roots. The beloved A.A. Milne creation, a potbellied bear with a taste for "hunny," was based on a real-life Canadian black bear that lived at the London Zoo.

Brought to the zoo by Lieutenant Harry Colebourn during the First World War, the bear was named Winnie after the soldier's hometown of Winnipeg.

It's fitting, then, that the new Disney Winnie the Pooh movie had many Canadians help bring it to the screen.

"It's like winning the lottery having worked here," says Alberta native Brian Ferguson of his 21 years working at the House of Mouse.

His first job after joining the company was animating the company's mascot in Mickey Mouse's Prince and the Pauper. "It's such a simple design," he says, "but if you get a pencil thickness off in the proportions, it looks wrong." That's a lesson he took with him when drawing the classic characters in Winnie the Pooh.

"The people who did the first Winnie the Poohs were masters and the stuff they did then, wow," he says. "Even as an experienced animator I look at it and go, 'Oh my goodness, I wouldn't have thought of that.' It's subtle little things that make a character be just a little away from normal. It's the subtle difference between, 'I would never have done it that way,' to 'I would never have thought to do it that way.'"

Nik Ranieri, a Torontonian with 23 years at the studio, adds that while the classic look of Winnie the Pooh has been maintained in the movie, efforts have been made to update the feel of the film.

"When I watch the film there are some things in there I don't think you'd see in the old ones," he says. "Look at the character of Rabbit. Some of those poses and expressions are a little more manic, but it doesn't take away from the charm of the original. It just adds a little bit of contemporary feel to it."

For Vancouverite Clio Change, Winnie the Pooh marks a landmark — it's her first Disney film. "I think I was four when I told my dad I wanted to work here," she says. "He said, 'OK, you can sell Coke in the parks in a mouse suit.' Luckily it was animation instead."

When I ask her if all the Disney Canucks have their own table in the cafeteria she nods and laughs, "We eat maple cookies and drink syrup."

HANDOUT

▶ Disney's Winnie the Pooh

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Captain America keeps his name

SUBMITTED

▶ Chris Evans in Captain America.

Captain America will keep its patriotic title in most of the world when the superhero adventure hits the big screen.

Paramount Pictures and Marvel Studios gave distributors around the world the option of shortening the title of Captain America: The First Avenger to simply The First Avenger, out of concern about anti-American sentiment.

But the only countries that took them up on it were Russia, Ukraine and South Korea.

In other territories, the movie will go out with the full title, a sign that the brand value of the Marvel Comics hero trumps any potential anti-U.S. feelings in some parts of the world.

Movie titles often are changed in foreign countries for cultural reasons or because the original names don't translate well.

Starring Chris Evans as the patriotic super-soldier, Captain America opens in U.S. theatres July 22.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Movie reviews See it twice ◍◍◍◍◍ | See it now ◍◍◍◍ | Worth watching ◍◍◍ | Yawn ◍◍ | Don't bother ◍

Zookeeper
Genre: Comedy
Director: Frank Coraci
Stars: Kevin James, Rosario Dawson
◍◍

Kevin James wanted to make a family movie — one that would be stupendously inoffensive. He has managed to do that with talking animals in way — amazingly — that isn't actually as boneheaded as the premise sounds. As a man passionate about his zookeeping job, James' character gets advice from his talking animals (voiced by the likes of Nick Nolte and Cher) on how to win back an ex. It's goofy, obvious, contrived and corny (there is a trip to TGI Friday's with a dancing gorilla, after all), but the humour is silly enough to amuse kids without resorting to toilet humour or sleaze for the adults. With this box of chocolates, you know exactly what you're going to get, and that isn't necessarily a bad thing.

HEIDI PATALANO

With the final Harry Potter movie hitting theatres next week, Metro takes a look at life after a decade of Hogwarts

A Potter post-mortem

COURTESY WARNER BROS

▶ Wands out one last time: Daniel Radcliffe in a scene from Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows: Part 2.

What's the next big series?

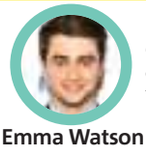
The Hunger Games
Premise: Every year, one boy and one girl must fight to the death in a televised event, brought to you by the evil government in charge of the land of Panem.
The movies: The first is filming now. Jennifer Lawrence, Oscar-nominee, will play our hero, Katniss Everdeen.
Chances of it taking off: High. It's not corny, but clever.

Snow White and the Huntsman
Premise: Our heroine is cast out by a wicked witch, and ordered to die at the hands of a hunter.
The movies: Kristen Stewart leaves one franchise for another, playing a tough version of Snow White.
Chances of it taking off: Fair.

Percy Jackson and the Olympians
Premise: A kid discovers his dad is the Greek god Poseidon. Rick Riordan's series has five books so far.
Chances of it taking off: The first film made more than $200 million worldwide. SAM CASTONE

What's next for the Potter stars?

ALL PHOTOS GETTY IMAGES



Daniel Radcliffe (Harry)
Currently singing and dancing in the Broadway musical How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying, he earned rave reviews, even if the production itself didn't. **Chances of future success:** 4 out of 5 wands

Emma Watson (Hermione)
Already a fashion magazine staple, Watson has left the genre ghetto for trendy indies. **Chances of success:** 5 out of 5 wands

Rupert Grint (Ron)
Is he ambitious, or just a stoner? Either way, Ron will likely keep making likeable movies that no one will see.
Chances of success: 3 out of 5 wands

Tom Felton (Draco)
He's getting attacked by primates in Ride of the Planet of the Apes, out this August. **Chances of success:** 2 out of 5 wands

Alan Rickman (Snape)
Rickman will star in The Seminar, a new Broadway play, this fall.
Chances of success: After Die Hard, Potter and countless plays, the man's a legend. Plus, we're too scared to say otherwise. SAM CASTONE

We take a stab at writing book 8

Several years after the fall of Voldemort — and the flight of the remaining Death Eaters to Brazil — newly Certified Public Accountant Harold J. Potter has finally started to settle down into a normal, almost Muggle-ish life. He and Ginny Weasley, now battled nothing more sinister than their first son's occasional dirty, levitating diaper. But one day Harold went on a business trip to the Ministry of Magic. There he was informed that, through a complicated series of risky dragon scale default swaps and unregulated wand sales to non-magical beings, the very economic foundation of their world was in jeopardy. Harold also learned that the new Minister of Magic — Harold's old Quidditch teammate Oliver Wood — had just been found murdered at Hogwarts. Harold's thoughts turned to Voldemort, the only being capable of such cruelty. But the Ministers told Harold the name that had been scratched into the skin of poor Oliver, and Harold knew he faced a new enemy. The name scratched into Wood's body, the ministers told Harry, was...Mrs. Norris.

DREW TOAL

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THESE PAGES COVER MOVIE START TIMES FROM FRI., OCT. 8 TO THURS., OCT. 14. TIMES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE. COMPLETE LISTINGS ARE ALSO AVAILABLE AT METRONEWS.CA/MOVIES.

LONDON

Mustang Drive-In -London
2551 Wilton Grove Rd., 519-644-1160
Bad Teacher (14A) Fri-Thu 11:30
Super 8 (PG) Fri-Thu 12:25
Transformers: Dark of the Moon (PG) Fri-Thu 9:40
Zookeeper (G) Fri-Thu 9:45

Hyland Cinema
240 Wharncliffe Road South, 519-913-0313
The Tree of Life (PG) Fri-Thu 1-3:30-6:45-9:15

Rainbow Cinemas London
355 Wellington St., 519-434-3073
Bad Teacher (14A) Fri-Thu 12:55-3:05-5:15-7:15-9:25
Cars 2 (G) Fri-Thu 1:20-3:55-7-9:35
Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows: Part 2 (PG) Thu 12:01
Horrible Bosses (14A) Fri-Thu 1:05-3:20-5:30-7:40-9:50
Larry Crowne (PG) Fri-Wed 1:15-3:30-7:10-9:30 Thu 3:30-7:10-9:30 Thu 1
Mr. Popper's Penguins (G) Fri-Thu 1-3:15-5:20-7:30
Super 8 (PG) Fri-Thu 9:40
Transformers: Dark of the Moon 3D (PG) Fri-Thu 12:45-3:45-6:45-9:45
Zookeeper (G) Fri-Thu 12:50-3:10-5:25-7:35-9:45

Western Film
Room 340, UCC Building,
X-Men: First Class (PG) Fri-Thu 7

Wellington 8 Cinemas
983 Wellington Rd. S, 519-685-2529
Bad Teacher (14A) Fri-Thu 12:20-3:40-7:20-9:55
Cars 2 3D (G) Fri-Wed 1-4-6:45-9:30 Thu 1-4-6:45-9:15
Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows: Part 2: 3D (PG) No Passes Thu 12:01
Horrible Bosses (14A) No Passes Fri-Thu 12:40-3:30-7:10-9:50
Larry Crowne (PG) Fri-Thu 1:10-4:10-7:15-9:45
Monte Carlo (G) Fri-Thu 12:50-3:50-6:30-9:10
Transformers: Dark of the Moon (PG) No Passes Fri-Sun 12:15-3:35-6:55-10:15 Mon-Thu 12:15-3:35-6:55-10:15
Transformers: Dark of the Moon 3D (PG) No Passes Fri-Sun 12:3:20-6:40-10:05 Mon-Thu 12-3:20-6:40-10:05
Zookeeper (G) No Passes Fri-Thu 12:30-3:10-7-9:40

Cineplex Odeon Westmount & VIP Cinemas
755 Wonderland Road South, 519-474-2796
Bad Teacher (14A) Fri-Tue 1-4:10-7:20-9:50 Wed 4:10-7:20-9:50 Thu 1-4:10-6:40-9 Star & Strollers Screening Wed 1
Cars 2 3D (G) Fri-Wed 12:40-3:50-6:50-9:30 Thu 12:40-3:50-6:45-9:10
Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows: Part 2: 3D (PG) No Passes Thu 12:01-12:10
Horrible Bosses (14A) No Passes Fri-Thu 12:10-2:40-5:10-7:45-10:20 No Passes Fri-Thu 12:30-3:45-7-9:25
Kung Fu Panda 2 (PG) Fri-Thu 12:30
Larry Crowne (PG) Fri-Sun 1-4:15-7:30-10:25 Mon 1-3:30-7:30 Tue 1-4:15-7:30-10:25 Wed 1-4:10:25 Thu 1-4:15-7:30-10:25
The Metropolitan Opera: Die Walküre Encore (STC) Mon 6
Midnight in Paris (PG) Fri-Thu 12:50-4-7:10-9:40
Spartacus (STC) Wed 6:30
Super 8 (PG) Fri-Thu 3:30-6:30-9:20
Transformers: Dark of the Moon (PG) No Passes Fri-Thu 2:15-6:40-10
Transformers: Dark of the Moon 3D (PG) No Passes Fri-Thu 12:20-3:40-7-10:30 No Passes Fri-Sun 12-3:15-6:30-9:55 No Passes Mon 12-3:15-9:55 No Passes Tue 12-3:15-6:30-9:55 No Passes Wed 12-3:15-6:45-10:10 No Passes Thu 12-3:15-6:30-9:55
Zookeeper (G) No Passes Fri-Thu 12-2:30-5-7:35-10:10

SilverCity London
1680 Richmond St, 519-673-4125
Bad Teacher (14A) Fri 1:05-4-6:45-9:30 Sat 1:05-4:30-6:45-9:30 Sun-Tue 1:05-4-6:45-9:30 Wed 4-6:45-9:30 Thu 1:05-4-6:45-9:30 Star & Strollers Screening Wed 1
Bridesmaids (14A) Fri 12:45-3:40-6:55-10:05 Sat 3:40-6:55-10:05 Sun-Thu 12:45-3:40-6:55-10:05
Cars 2 (G) Fri 1:20-4:20 Sat 10:45-1:20-4:20 Sun 1:20-4:20 Mon 12:55-3:50 Tue-Thu 1:20-4:20
Cars 2 3D (G) Fri-Thu 12:35-3:30-6:35-9:20
Green Lantern 3D (PG) Fri-Wed 1:30-4:30-7:30-10:45 Thu 12:30-3:35-6:35-9:15
Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows: Part 1 (PG) Sat 10:30 Mon 7
Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows: Part 2: 3D (PG) No Passes Thu 12:01
Horrible Bosses (14A) No Passes Fri-Thu 11:55-2:35-5:10-7:45-10:25
Larry Crowne (PG) Fri-Thu 1-4:10-7-9:40
Monte Carlo (G) Fri-Thu 11:55-2:35-5:10-7:45-10:25
Stephen Sondheim's Company (STC) Sat 1
Super 8 (PG) Fri-Sun 7:25-10:35 Mon 10:35 Tue-Thu 7:25-10:35
Transformers: Dark of the Moon (PG) No Passes Fri 1:10-4:45-8:15 No Passes Sat 12-3:25-6:50-10:20 No Passes Sun 1:10-4:45-8:15 No Passes Mon 12-3:25-6:50-10:20 No Passes Tue-Thu 1:10-4:45-8:15
Transformers: Dark of the Moon 3D (PG) No Passes Fri 12-12:20-3:25-3:45-6:50-7:10-10:20-10:40 No Passes Sat 12:20-2:30-3:45-6:30-7:10-10-10:40 No Passes Sun 12-12:20-3:25-3:45-6:50-7:10-10:20-10:40 No Passes Mon 12:20-1:10-3:45-4:45-7:10-8:15-10:40 No Passes Tue-Thu 12-12:20-3:25-3:45-6:50-7:10-10:20-10:40
Zookeeper (G) No Passes Fri-Thu 12:05-2:40-5:05-7:40-10:10

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Summer spotlight for Canadian TV

Season not just for television reruns, but for new shows

Canadian TV is hitting full bloom this summer.

"You go on in the fall when all the big U.S. shows come and you get buried behind their promotional machine," says comic Brent Butt, whose Vancouver-set sitcom Hiccups returned with new episodes at the end of May.

"Maybe in the summer you get a chance to pop out a little more."

The belief that most people cool down their viewing habits when the weather turns hot is not true, says Butt, convinced that a sizable number of couch-potatoes exist year-round.

The fresh crop includes a new season of CTV's Flashpoint, premiering on Friday.

Film and TV star Paul Gross executive produces HBO Canada's edgy satire The Yard, also debuting Friday, about the day-to-day struggle for supremacy between two schoolyard gangs.

On Global, the song-and-dance competition Canada Sings debuts Aug. 10, pitting workplace glee clubs against each other in front of judges Vanilla Ice, Jann Arden, and Simple Plan rocker Pierre Bouvier.

Those are all on top of last month's return of Citytv's Murdoch Mysteries, Global's cop series Rookie Blue, CTV's Dan for Mayor and the debut of Global's Combat Hospital.

The influx of new summer episodes comes before the lucrative fall TV season, when the private broadcasters typically stack their schedules with big-budget, star-driven U.S. simulcasts.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

The boys are back

- The long-awaited Trailer Park Boys followup hits the air July 22 on Action, with Mike Smith, Robb Wells and JP Tremblay playing very loose versions of themselves.
- The Drunk And On Drugs Happy Funtime Hour centres on a fictional sketch-variety TV show that runs off the rails when the cast mistakenly ingests a powerful hallucinogen.

HANDOUT

▶ Characters are shown in a scene from the new TV series The Yard.

TV Picks

HANDOUT

▶ Hugh Dillon stars as Ed Lane in Flashpoint

Mockumentary with a purpose

ALLEGORY. Movie star Paul Gross is the executive producer of the new six-part, half-hour mockumentary series The Yard, which starts Friday. It follows the day-to-day battle between two schoolyard gangs and mostly features kids between the ages of 10 and 13.

Billed as a satirical comedy, each episode is said to be an allegory for something going on in the real world. It kicks off with two back-to-back episodes. (HBO Canada).

Resolution of a cliffhanger?

FLASHPOINT. A new season of Flashpoint returns Friday with Ed battling for his life after being shot in last season's cliffhanger.

Meanwhile, Cle Bennett (Lost Girl, Barney's Version) joins the cast as a diamond-in-the-rough recruit and Victor Garber (Alias) guest stars as a hard-nosed military psychologist bent on disbanding Team One for good. (CTV).

Ode to female resilience

WATER. Airing Saturday, Deepa Mehta's Oscar-nominated film Water is an ode to female resilience as it follows three women forced to live in an ashram, or widow colony, in 1938 India. They include the eight-year-old Chuyia, who questions not only her own confinement but the logic of sequestering widows.

Production of the provocative film was plagued by religious fundamentalists who deemed it anti-Hindu and threatened Mehta and her crew. (A Channel).

Outcasts from across the pond

SCI-FI. The British sci-fi series Outcasts lands on this side of the pond on Saturday with an ambitious premise — 10 years after Earth colonists arrive on Carpathia, they anxiously await the arrival of the last known transporter from their doomed home planet. (Space).

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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OLG

Bow Wow has a new pup running around

Rapper admits to suicidal feelings But finding peace in birth of child

ALL PHOTOS GETTY IMAGES

▶ Bow Wow

Mazel tov to Bow Wow, who revealed on his website Wednesday that he's a father to a baby girl.

The 24-year-old former child star and rapper/actor, whose real name is Shad Gregory Moss, also admitted suicidal feelings on the site.

"For the past 3 years i been batteling life," he wrote (we are not correcting his spelling or grammar).

"Even thought about taking my own. I felt like as a kid i did everything and saw everything too fast which spoiled my adult years. I felt as if i had no purpose to live (Thinking selfishly) until god gave me the illest gift of my life. No lambo, no blk card nuffn ammounts to my lil girl."

METRO

98.1 free FM.ca

Talking points

Who will be the next star of Transformers?

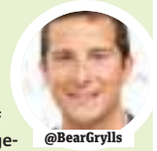
OR WHO ELSE WILL HAVE THEIR CAREER RUINED BY MICHAEL BAY? The third Transformers has made almost $200 million worldwide, so you know there will be a fourth.

But who will star, now that Shia LaBeouf has moved on?

The Internet says: Jason Statham, star of the Transporter films.

After Showbiz Spy reported the rumor, other sites speculated it may be true, partly because he's dating Transformers 3 star Rosie Huntington-Whiteley. METRO

Celebrity tweets


@BearGrylls

"Let no feeling of discouragement prey upon you, and in the end you are sure to succeed." - Abraham Lincoln."

@RiversCuomo

""I could while away the hours, conferrin' with the flowers, if I only had a brain." ~Scarecrow"

@KirstieAlley

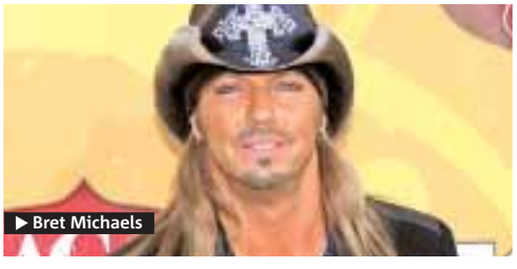
"Can't decide between staying on twitter or getting 48 cats....redundant"

Michaels lawsuit delayed

Bret Michaels' lawsuit over an accident at the 2009 Tony Awards that the singer claims nearly killed him should be heard in New York where the accident happened, a federal judge has ruled.

It makes more sense for the case — which stems from Michaels being hit in the head by a set piece after performing at Radio City Music Hall — to be handled by a federal court in Manhattan, U.S. District Judge Dolly Gee wrote in a ruling Tuesday.

The Poison frontman sued Tony organizers, claiming the accident contributed to a brain hemorrhage that nearly killed him. METRO


▶ Bret Michaels

Dourdan busted for drugs

CSI star Gary Dourdan was killed off that hit series and later arrested for drug possession in 2008.

Now he's in trouble again. After smashing into several parked cars back in June, the cops arrested him for — guess? — drug possession yet again, according to TMZ, which has now identified the drug: OxyContin, the painkiller known as "hillbilly heroin" because it's popular in the American south.

Police did not indicate how much jail time he would be looking at for a second drug related offence.

METRO

▶ Gary Dourdan

No special treatment for Willie Nelson

JUST SAY NO. A judge has rejected a plea deal that would have resolved Willie Nelson's marijuana possession case in West Texas with a fine, saying the country singer shouldn't get what she considers special treatment.

Nelson was arrested in November after a Border Patrol agent said six ounces of marijuana were found on Nelson's tour bus.

Hudspeth County Judge Becky Dean-Walker told The Associated Press on Wednesday that she rejected prosecutor Kit Bramblett's suggestion that Nelson resolve the case by pleading guilty and paying a $500 fine for possession of drug paraphernalia.

Dean-Walker claims the prosecutor "doesn't do that for anybody else."

The judge says Nelson should be charged with the misdemeanour marijuana possession, which carries up to a year in jail.

Bramblett didn't return a call Wednesday.

Nelson's publicist declined comment.

METRO

A beautiful combination

PETER ROCKWELL
LIQUIDASSETS@EASTLINK.CA
TWITTER: @THEREALWINEGUY

Combining wine with anything but an empty glass has been called a lot of things — and not all of them pretty.

It's never bothered the Spanish. Their recipe for warm weather refreshment has survived for centuries as the popular red wine-based, Mediterranean-mixer sangria.

While styles vary, you can make your own version using an inexpensive Spanish red or a value-priced, fruit-forward alternative like Hungary's non-vintage Hungarovin Szekszárdi Vörös Kékfrankos ($9.68 - $12.79). Here's my basic recipe:

- 750 ml chilled red wine
- 50 ml brandy
- 50 ml orange liqueur
- 250 ml lemonade
- 250 ml raspberries
- 1 orange (sliced
- 1 lemon (sliced)
- 1 green apple (sliced)
- sugar to taste
- soda water (optional)

Combine fruit, brandy, orange liqueur and sugar in a glass pitcher. Refrigerate for an hour. To serve: Stir in chilled wine and lemonade. Adding a touch of soda water will cause a slight spritz.

PRICES REFLECT THE RANGE ACROSS CANADA. SOME PRODUCTS MAY NOT BE AVAILABLE IN ALL PROVINCES.

Camp cuisine with a hint of gourmet

Mike Faverman and Pat Mac's Ultimate Camp Cooking proves roughing it doesn't have to mean burnt hot dogs and trail mix This Chicken Cordon Bleu can be made in less time than it takes to put up a tent

MARC KALLWEIT

This recipe makes four to six servings.

People are increasingly choosing budget-friendly camping trips over expensive vacations. But you don't have to sacrifice good eats with that small budget. Ultimate Camp Cooking boasts 80 fast, easy and delicious recipes.

Preparation:

1. If chicken breasts are thicker than 1/2 inch, pound thinner. Place one slice of cheese and one slice of ham on each breast, leaving 1/2 inch of space around edges. Fold edges of the chicken over filling and secure with toothpicks. Mix flour and paprika in a small bowl and use to coat chicken pieces.
2. Heat butter in large skillet over medium-high heat and cook chicken until browned on all sides. Add wine and bouillon. Reduce heat to low, cover and simmer for 30 minutes, until chicken is no longer pink and juices run clear.
3. Remove toothpicks and transfer to warm platter. Blend cornstarch with cream in bowl and whisk slowly into skillet. Cook, stirring, until thickened, 5 to 7 minutes. Pour over chicken and serve warm.

Ingredients:

- 6 boneless skinless chicken breast halves (2 to 3 pounds)
- 6 slices Swiss cheese
- 6 slices ham (lunch meat style)
- 3 tablespoons all-purpose flour
- 1 teaspoon paprika
- 6 tablespoons unsalted butter
- 1/2 cup white wine
- 1 teaspoon chicken bouillon granules
- 1 tablespoon cornstarch
- 1 cup heavy whipping cream

FROM ULTIMATE CAMP COOKING BY PAT MAC AND MIKE FAVERMAN (ANDREWS MCMEEL PUBLISHING, 2011)

Think Salmon Benedict is only for those fancy Sunday breakfasts? Here's the camp version

This is a traditional breakfast that most people are intimidated by in the woods. It's also a great way to take leftover food from the night before and use it as a breakfast protein.

Preparation:

1. Take some leftover salmon, put it in foil, and reheat on grill or griddle. Heat up Canadian bacon, too.
2. To make hollandaise sauce, combine butter, milk and hollandaise mix in medium-sized pan over medium heat. Let simmer until thick.
3. Crack eggs on hot griddle and cook until sunny-side up. You may want to pour a little water on griddle and cover it so steam helps cook eggs to over easy without having to flip them.
4. Toast English muffins on grill. Put eggs, salmon and Canadian bacon on one side of each muffin, then drizzle hollandaise sauce across top and top with other half of muffin. Season with salt and pepper to taste.

FROM ULTIMATE CAMP COOKING BY PAT MAC AND MIKE FAVERMAN (ANDREWS MCMEEL PUBLISHING, 2011)

Ingredients:

- 1/2 pound cooked salmon
- 4 to 6 slices Canadian bacon
- 8 tablespoons (1 stick) unsalted butter
- 1/4 cup 2% milk
- 1 (0.9 ounce, 25 grams) packet hollandaise sauce mixture
- 2 large eggs 6 English muffins, halved Salt and black pepper

MIKE FAVERMAN AND PAT MAC

This recipe makes four to six servings.

3 life

Mood food

There are nutrients your body cannot produce. Such nutrients, called "essential" and omega–3 fatty acids, from flaxseed oil or fish oil, are essential fatty acids. Studies show that omega–3s have many health benefits including the capacity to support mental health and improve mood.

Considering the mental and physical challenges faced every day by adults and children alike, eating more fish or supplementing with omega–3s could be a smart way to improve mood and health.

NEWS CANADA

The whole truth on whole grains.

4 sports

Phillies brace for Braves

- Atlanta heads into Philadelphia 2½ games back in race for National League East pennant
- Braves have won five of the nine meetings between the teams so far this season

DREW HALLOWELL/GETTY IMAGES

▶ Ryan Howard and the Phillies will take on the Braves this weekend.

Leading the division for all but one day this season means little to the Philadelphia Phillies at this point

They're well aware the standings only matter after 162 games.

Still, this weekend's showdown with the Atlanta Braves is important for both teams. The Phillies are 2½ games ahead of Atlanta in the NL East entering their three-game series at Citizens Bank Park, and they'd like to head into the all-star break with more breathing room.

"This is a big series," manager Charlie Manuel said. "We've just got to go in there and play like we've been playing."

The pitching-rich Phillies have their three all-star starters lined up to face Atlanta. Roy Halladay (11-3), Cliff Lee (9-6) and Cole Hamels (10-4) will pitch in that order.

The Braves, on the other hand, won't have two of their top three starters. Ace Jair Jurrjens (12-3) and Tim Hudson (8-6) both pitched during Atlanta's four-game sweep of Colorado. Instead, Brandon Beachy (3-1) goes against Halladay on Friday night, Tommy Hanson (10-4) starts Saturday and Derrick Lowe (5-6) takes the mound Sunday.

"I like competing against the best and they're pretty darn good," Beachy said. "It's a challenge."

The Phillies have the best record in the majors at 55-33, but the Braves (53-36) are determined to stand in the way of a fifth straight division title. Both clubs have relied on stellar pitching and each has overcome key injuries and an inconsistent offence so far.

"We've been winning some games and we have a good record, but the Braves are right there with us. We ain't done nothing yet, really."
PHILLIES MANAGER CHARLIE MANUEL

Philadelphia is currently without two of its starting five — Roy Oswalt and Joe Blanton — and its top three closers — Ryan Madson, Jose Contreras and Brad Lidge. Five-time all-star Chase Utley was sidelined the first two months and centre fielder Shane Victorino and catcher Carlos Ruiz also spent time on the disabled list. Victorino (thumb) and all-star third baseman Placido Polanco (back) are both iffy for this series.

The Braves began the season without Jurrjens, and were without Beachy and Hanson at various points. Outfielders Jason Heyward and Nate McLouth were sidelined earlier in the year, and left fielder Martin Prado is on the DL.

"We're similar in a lot of ways," Manuel said. "If you look at runs scored and hitting, they're a lot like us. They've been doing it mostly with pitching."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Quoted

"It was another nervous stage and because of the rain I virtually couldn't see anything. At the end of the stage I was moving to the very front of the pack, simply to avoid accidents, and not because I wanted to attack."
ALBERTO CONTADOR, ON THURSDAY'S SIXTH STAGE OF THE TOUR DE FRANCE. EDVALD BOASSON HAGEN WON THE STAGE.

Scan code for more sports news.

DeLaet may miss Canadian Open with back injury

Graham DeLaet is unsure if he'll be able to compete on home soil at the RBC Canadian Open.

After sitting out the first few months of the PGA Tour season recovering from back surgery, the 29-year-old has returned to the sidelines with some stiffness and discomfort. It may keep him from playing the Canadian Open at Vancouver's Shaughnessy Golf and Country Club in three weeks.

"I just love that golf course and the Canadian Open is obviously important to every Canadian, but I'm going to have to wait and see how I'm feeling," DeLaet said on Thursday.

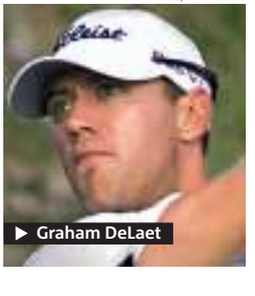
A decision on his status probably won't come until just before the July 21-24 tournament. DeLaet has played two amateur events at Shaughnessy in the past and considers it his favourite course in the country.

It's been a trying 2011 season for the native of Weyburn, Sask., who suffered a back injury while playing hockey as a teenager and has dealt with varying levels of pain since.

DeLaet elected to have surgery in early January to remove a portion of a herniated disc and endured a few months of recovery. He eventually returned to competition on the Nationwide Tour in June and made two additional appearances on the PGA Tour before withdrawing from the AT&T National last week.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

STEVE DYKES/GETTY IMAGES



▶ Graham DeLaet

Glenn's gabbing gaffe and thoughts heading into Week 2

CFL EXTRA POINTS

DAN TOTH
LONDON@METRONEWS.CA

Hamilton quarterback Kevin Glenn should take a lesson from Casey Printers, a former MVP whose big mouth and attitude had him punted from the Canadian Football League.

Going public with his displeasure after being pulled out of Hamilton's season-opening loss to the Winnipeg Blue Bombers, Glenn said, "It just felt like a smack in the face."

"It was Printers who over-reacted in a similar situation with the B.C. Lions two seasons ago. He was released and the former MVP hasn't been seen since."

It was Printers who over-reacted in a similar situation with the B.C. Lions two seasons ago. He was released and the former MVP hasn't been seen since.

Quarterbacks are supposed to be team leaders, especially when everything goes wrong.

How they react to adversity is just one of the many ways they are evaluated.

Glenn was pulled in favour of backup Quinton Porter with the Tiger-Cats down by four points after the Hamilton starter threw his third pick.

He was back on the field this week, hopefully with a better attitude, taking reps with the Tabbies' first-team offence as the club prepares for the Edmonton Eskimos.

Buckin' Tough: If Winnipeg Blue Bombers fans are convinced the team is going nowhere without Buck Pierce at QB this season, they must have been terrified to see their star get thumped in Week 1. Although Pierce bounced back on his feet, Hamilton linebacker Jamal Johnson hit him so hard it knocked the breath out every Manitoba resident.

Pierce proved he's a tough dude, but the Bombers need to evaluate their pass protection to keep him on his feet.

Esks' ace in the hole: The constant recycling of CFL coaches often comes back to bite teams. The Saskatchewan Roughriders are a case in point after the Eskimos exploited the Green's defensive tendencies in Week 1.

Edmonton offensive co-ordinator Marcus Crandell quarterbacked the Riders and knows the patterns of Riders defensive mastermind Richie Hall, who is back in Regina after two years in Edmonton as head coach. Esks QB Ricky Ray shredded the Riders D in Week 1, going 21-for-27 for 294 yards and three TDs.

Kicking crisis in Calgary: Lose an import receiver or running back to injury and you can have a plane full of recruits in town overnight. Lose a Canadian kicker, as the Calgary Stampeders did last week against Toronto, and you really understand pain.

The Stamps are without injured placekicker Rob Maver (leg) this week and have added Rene Paredes, a player so obscure he isn't even a household name in his own house.

Paredes spent four seasons at Concordia where he converted 54 of 79 field-goal attempts.

The 26-year-old non-import emerged from a pack of kickers the Stamps airlifted into town to try out, including CFL veterans Jamie Boreham and Matt Kellett.

Pirates no longer taking on water

A year after enduring 105 losses, new manager has turned perennial losers into National League feel-good story

JARED WICKERHAM/GETTY IMAGES

▶ Andrew McCutchen of the Pirates is congratulated by manager Clint Hurdle earlier this season.

One by one, a seemingly endless train of reporters filed into first-year Pirates manager Clint Hurdle's office on Wednesday.

Last season, the afternoon media session for a midweek game against a last-place opponent like Houston might have drawn a handful in this town where the Steelers rule and the Penguins are a marquee attraction.

But it seems like everybody wants to hear what Hurdle has to say these days.

An afterthought for virtually an entire generation, these pesky Pirates were only 1 ½ games behind the National League Central lead as play began on Thursday.

"There's been a mindset change in this clubhouse and in this organization," second baseman Neil Walker said. "I think it's a lot of guys, but Clint Hurdle has come in here and instilled confidence in every single one of us."

In stark contrast to insipid predecessor John Russell, Hurdle is at his best with an audience. He cracks jokes, but he's also not afraid to provide a stern hand with his players.

Perhaps no one knows both ends of that this season better than centrefielder Andrew McCutchen, the team's best position player.

"The players understand who they're playing for — the city of Pittsburgh ... People work hard for their money, and they want an effort."
PIRATES MANAGER CLINT HURDLE

McCutchen was disciplined by Hurdle in May and left out of the lineup for not running out a ball in the dirt after he struck out.

But when McCutchen was a surprising omission for an all-star spot last weekend, Hurdle criticized those involved for the decision.

"That shows one way that he's supportive and he's behind us," McCutchen said. "It feels good to be able to hear what he had to say and to have that support by saying what he had to say and not really caring (about repercussions).

"That's the person he is."

Hurdle has recently spoken of the "joy" this season has brought him. The Texas Rangers' hitting coach last season — after being fired midway through his eighth season as manager of the Colorado Rockies in 2009 — Hurdle said after a recent victory, "I've had a lot of different teams, but this team is an absolute blast to manage." THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

18

The Pirates hold the North American major sports record of consecutive losing seasons with 18. They are a win away from assuring their first winning record at the all-star break since 1992.

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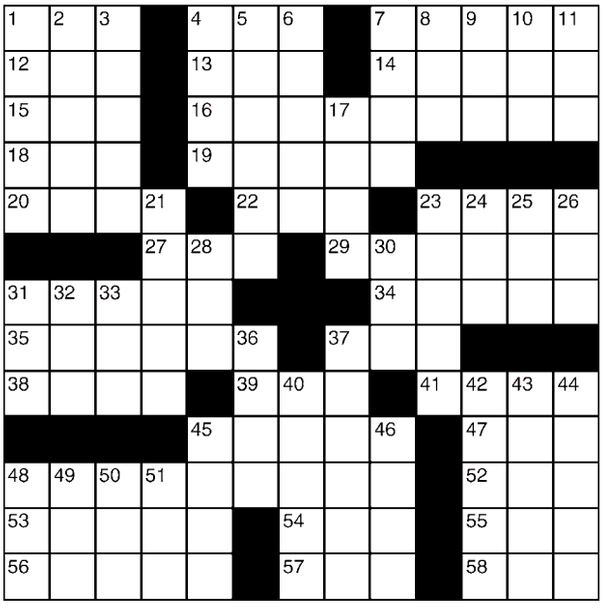

Across

1 Energy
4 Chances, for short
7 Ball VIP
12 Tokyo's old name
13 Scrap
14 Art supporter
15 — "King" Cole
16 Lake Mead structure
18 Discoverer's cry
19 Disrobe
20 Early period
22 Storm center
23 Relaxation
27 Doctrine
29 Skype device
31 Part of an act
34 Lends a sneaky hand
35 Blockage
37 Seek damages
38 Meditation method
39 Wide shoe size
41 Eat in style
45 The Jetsons' dog
47 Pick-up-sticks game
48 Deli purchase
52 Society newbie
53 Wharton or Piaf
54 Over (Pref.)
55 Lemieux milieu
56 High-pitched
57 Give permission
58 — Lingus

Down

1 Poison
2 Spud state
3 Engine
4 — and ahs
5 For now
6 Tale
7 Gridlock sound
8 Listener
9 1960s hallucinogen
10 Grazing area
11 Shade provider
17 Panorama
21 Japanese assassin
23 Receded
24 Expert
25 Perched
26 North Sea feeder
28 Vast expanse
30 H-deux-O
31 Cunning
32 Bill's partner
33 Mayo ingredient
36 Interweave
37 Siesta cover
40 Lucy's pal
42 Kind of ink or rubber
43 Dorothy, to Em
44 Fireplace tidbit
45 Wan
46 Leave out
48 Apiece
49 Praise in verse
50 Recline
51 "— be a pleasure"

▶ Yesterday's answer

F	B	I		B	A	I	T		A	L	M	A		
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E	N	D		R	U	G		G	E	O	D	E		
E	K	E	D		M	O	W		S	L	U	G		
P	Y	R	E	X		D	A	D		E	T	O		
			S	I	R		R	E	P	A	Y	S		
S	P	E	C	I	E	S		B	U	N				
W	I	D	E		S	Q	U	A	N	D	E	R		
A	K	I	N		A	M	P	S		E	M	O		
N	E	E	D		W	I	N	E		R	U	B		

Sudoku

8				6	4	5		7
7	9						3	
				7	5		8	
	1					9		
			8		2			
		6					1	
	8		5	4				
	6						4	8
3		4	1	2				9

How to play

Fill in the grid, so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved. You solve the puzzle with reasoning and logic.

Yesterday's answer ▶

6	8	1	4	5	2	3	9	7
5	2	3	1	9	7	4	8	6
9	4	7	6	8	3	2	1	5
8	7	2	5	3	9	1	6	4
3	6	4	2	7	1	8	5	9
1	9	5	8	6	4	7	2	3
2	1	9	7	4	5	6	3	8
7	3	8	9	2	6	5	4	1
4	5	6	3	1	8	9	7	2

Send a KISS

You can now post your kiss, and read even more kisses, online at metronews.ca/kiss.

Dear FP, I am truly sorry for everything and I hope you accept my sincerest apologies. It was the best 2 years of my life with you. I hope that at some point we can reconnect. Loving you always **CRAVING ANNE**

To my SUNSHINE Missing you, my timmies just don't taste as good without my sugar, don't stay away so long. Giggle **YOUR ANGEL**

O My Gorgeous Golden Prince, O my adorable thanks for tight hug and the kiss and how u put me to sleep 2night, as usual u were by my side. me up again looking for u... not for the 1st time ...come back i need your strong arms again :) love u. never leave my side... :)) 12:40. **NEED ANOTHER HUG**

Today's horoscope

For today's crossword answers and for expanded horoscopes, go to metronews.ca

♈ Aries March 21-April 20 You could get a bit touchy today, especially if you suspect someone is aiming to usurp your position.

♉ Taurus April 21-May 21 This is a great day for networking, for making connections that will be good for you in the future.

♊ Gemini May 22-June 21 You must earn more or spend less — or maybe you'll have to do both.

♋ Cancer June 22-July 22 You may feel as if you don't have a care in the world but today's cosmic influences may bring you down a bit.

♌ Leo July 23-Aug.23 A lot is going on right now and no matter how many distractions there are, you cannot afford to ignore it.

♍ Virgo Aug. 24- Sept. 22 This is the ideal time to look seriously at what you expect from life.

♎ Libra Sept. 23-Oct. 23 You will get the chance to impress powerful people. Seize it with both hands.

♏ Scorpio Oct. 24-Nov. 22 There will be an opportunity to settle an old score today but you can and you must pass up the chance. Try using forgiveness instead.

♐ Sagittarius Nov. 23-Dec. 21 You seem to be unusually suspicious of late. Seriously, no one wants to hurt you.

♑ Capricorn Dec. 22-Jan. 20 A feud simmering for some time will come to a boil rather quickly.

♒ Aquarius Jan. 21-Feb. 18 Anything that is petty will not only distract you but annoy you, too. Steer clear of trivial people.

♓ Pisces Feb. 19-March 20. Try to tone down your act a bit over the next 24 hours — but only a bit.

SALLY BROMPTON

Caption contest

DANIEL OCHOA DE OLZA/ THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

SLAMET RIYADI/ THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

WIN! You write it!

Write a funny caption for the image above and send it to play@metronews.ca — the winning caption will be published in tomorrow's Metro.

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